

DUTY STATEMENT

Class Title: Research Scientist I (Social/Behavioral Sciences)	Position Number: 809-180-5580-901
Unit:	
Section: HIV Prevention Research and Evaluation Section	
Branch: HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Branch	
Division: Office of AIDS	

This position requires the incumbent maintain consistent and regular attendance; communicate effectively (orally and in writing if both appropriate) in dealing with the public and/or other employees; develop and maintain knowledge and skill related to specific tasks, methodologies, materials, tools and equipment; complete assignments in a timely and efficient manner; and, adhere to departmental policies and procedures regarding attendance, leave, and conduct.

Job Summary: The Research Scientist I (RS I) is responsible for conducting research on HIV prevention interventions, and for assisting with epidemiological studies and behavioral surveys.

Supervision Received: Direct supervision from the Research Scientist Supervisor II, Chief of the HIV Prevention Research and Evaluation (PRE) Section.

Supervision Exercised: None

Description of Duties: The RS I conducts relatively limited research projects on the epidemiology and prevention of AIDS. Using HIV prevention services and other data, the RS I develops research strategies to assess the current status of the epidemic and project future trends; works closely with other scientific staff within the Office of AIDS (OA), from local health jurisdictions, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other organizations to produce refined estimates of HIV epidemiology; and assists with geographic, demographic, and risk assessment research and evaluations. Performance requires basic research design skills and the application of standard research methodology and techniques. The supervisor reviews work for consistency with policy and procedures.

Percent of Time Essential Functions

45% As a team member, designs, conducts, and analyzes scientific research to advance the knowledge of the AIDS epidemic and its epidemiology and prevention, including the study of HIV trends, incidence, and prevalence. Defines predictive profiles of high risk and HIV infected persons and tests for significant trends. Uses scientific knowledge to improve estimation techniques and avoid biases in results due to client self-selection, duplication in reporting, and inadequate sampling strategies. Executes standard statistical analyses using main frame and personal computer versions of SAS statistical software. Uses logistic regression analyses and similar linear regression to determine factors associated with HIV infection. Surveys HIV testing clients to discover new sources of HIV transmission and factors associated with prevention of transmission. Performs tests of statistical significance on frequency, metric, and nonmetric data such as Chi-Square, ANOVA, and t tests. Calculates linear and nonlinear correlations, including the Pearson product moment, eta, and spearman techniques to identify potential causative agents in the spread of HIV.

20% Designs, manages, monitors, and evaluates HIV prevention information and analysis systems to ensure system integrity and goal attainment. Provides assistance in uplink and downlink technology to transfer epidemiological data sets between mainframe and microcomputers to permit analysis of comprehensive HIV indices. Provides technical consultation to research and administrative entities within OA, the Department, and other state agencies on the HIV Test Reporting System and related

scientific information. Provides technical assistance to local programs on HIV testing data and other research projects as developed.

- 10% In collaboration with local, state, federal and/or university investigators, conducts specific components of studies of priority areas of interest for the HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Branch, such as studies of HIV behavioral and disease surveillance and HIV prevention program effectiveness. Evaluates current literature on HIV epidemiology and prevention to assess design adequacy, sources of bias, appropriateness of interpretations, and applicability of conclusions. Writes reports and documents on testing research projects and analyses. Prepares and submits scientific publications on the results of HIV testing research. Presents research results to appropriate individuals and groups. Consults with experts in HIV epidemiology and prevention to identify issues and methods of assessing HIV epidemiology and prevention strategies.
- 10% Consults with management, staff, legislative bodies, governmental agencies, commissions, other agencies, and interested parties on the adequacy of existing programs and the feasibility of planned programs. Provides data, analyses, and projections to support recommendations.
- 10% Acts as a team member on specific projects with other staff in the HIV PRE Section to ensure timely progress and completion.

Percent of Time Marginal Functions

- 5% Presents research results to appropriate individuals, groups, meetings, and conferences.

Employee's signature	Date	Supervisor's signature	Date
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